

U.S. Officials Only

SECRET

FLP
582

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT Soviet Troop Exercises and
Movements in Hungary

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

25X1A

DATE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

DATE (OF INFO.) Fall 1953

ORR NO.	
DAS NO.	
OCI NO.	

DATE DISTR. 15 Feb 1954

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
OF THE UNITED STATES. WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793
AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED, ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVE-
LATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS
PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED.

25X1X

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

1. During the second half of Sep 1953 Soviet armor and motorized infantry appeared in Győr, Zalaegerszeg, Nagykanizsa and Pápa, bound from Austria eastward. They were quartered for a few days in Hungarian barracks at these places, then empty. There was never more than a single regiment at any one place.
2. At the airfields of Nagykanizsa, Taszár and Pápa there were Soviet formations moving east from Austria. Equipment was carried in truck convoys to these airfields. Many rolling offices, kitchens and sleeping trailers were observed. This movement lasted from mid-Sep to mid-Oct 1953.
3. At the end of Aug 1953 a Soviet armored division was observed at Záhony, moving into Hungary. The troops were camped in tents in the Fehérgyarmat-Nyíregyháza-Debrecen area, avoiding the larger towns.
4. Temporary Soviet tent camps have been observed at the following points since Aug 1953: Olad, in the forest near Narai and Dornóapati, Nagy Gecsen, Koszegfalva, Sorok Puszta, all of which are around Szombathely.
5. These Soviet troops held major march exercises. The motorized infantry went on foot, and the armor and artillery formations took all their weapons. Later motorized infantry formations held rapid movement exercises with their full equipment. These exercises lasted only a few days before the troops returned to camp. Later still there were exercises in day and night alarms, during which soldiers were called from movies and taverns, and in one or two hours left the camp areas. These rapid movements caused great alarm among the population, and

SEE LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT & AREA CODES

U.S. Officials Only

SECRET

DISTRIBUTION	STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI						
--------------	-------	------	------	-----	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

SECRET

-2-

there were constant rumors that something was happening, rumors strengthened by the presence of strong patrols.

6. The small Soviet camps along the Rába river were evacuated in Sep 1953.
7. Soviet troops were encamped under canvas at Jánosháza (16 km west-northwest of Devecser), Egyházashetye (6 km northwest of Jánosháza), Zalavég (17 km southwest of Jánosháza), and Hosszupresztég (11 km southwest of Jánosháza). These formations belonged to the garrisons of Szombathely and Körmend. They conducted seven-day march exercises, then returned to their camps.
8. There were also Soviet maneuvers at Platten Lake. Exercises took place also in the Tapolca area and the Bakony Mountains. At the latter there were long attack exercises.
9. A characteristic feature of all these exercises was that no major maneuvers were held. There were no large camps, and divisions did not maneuver against each other. On the other hand there were frequent cooperative maneuvers between planes and troops in small formations. Jet fighters nearly always took part.
10. In the area of Veszprém and Tapolca formations of parachutists were used.
11. In Sep 1953 a Soviet quartermaster command seized a number of houses in Rábakövöcsi. One of the cars bore the number C-7-82-14. Hungarian authorities warned the peasants to get their crops in quickly as the area was to be used for exercises.
12. In the first half of Oct 1953 new Soviet air formations arrived at the Pápa and Daka Airfields. After staying for four or five days they went on eastward.
13. There is a Soviet division command in the camp at Káld, 13 km southwest of Celldömölk. The units of the division are round about in tents.
14. One of the main camps is at Parkaserdő, where 3,000 Soviets were encamped during the summer. The camp is between the Sárvár-Káld-Zalaszentgrót railroad and the river Rába. South of this camp, barely in contact with it, there was another Soviet camp at the village of Széplak.
15. Tapolca Airfield has been used by both Soviet and Hungarian planes since the middle of Jul 1953. The number of planes present changed frequently due to many participating in exercises. A Soviet flying school has been set up at the field, with 115-120 pupils, using YAK planes.

LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES

-end-

124.32 N(HM)
124.33 37M(N)
451 37M

SECRET